

# Interactive Web Programming

1st semester of 2021

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Heavily based on [Victoria Kirst](#) slides

# Today's schedule

- Syllabus
- Course Info
- Browsers
- A little bit about **HTML** and **CSS**
- [Homework 0](#) assigned and due **this Tuesday 09/03**

Check out the course website for all this and more:

<https://murilocamargos.github.io/iwp/>

# Syllabus

# Course Goals

If you never take another web programming class again, you will leave this course with the following skills:

- Create **attractive, small scale web sites or apps** that at least mostly work on phones
- Have the **vocabulary and background knowledge** to understand technical writing/discussions about the web (e.g. web API documentation; random blog posts)
- Have the **foundation** to pursue the areas of web programming that you're interested in (if you choose)

# (Course Non-goals)

It is **not** a class to take to learn how to code.

- Programming Languages is a prereq. It should be sufficient.

It is **not** a class that will turn you into a senior frontend/backend developer.

- Nor is any class; software takes years of experience to develop expertise.

It is **not** a class that will teach you all there is to know about web programming.

- For example, we will **not** teach how to support old browsers, legacy devices, etc.

# The course, in detail

- **Frontend fundamentals (Client):**
  - HTML
  - CSS
  - JavaScript
  - D3
  
- **Backend fundamentals (Server):**
  - Server on NodeJS + Express
  - Database via MongoDB and Mongoose

# CSS

## HTML (~1 day)

- Key concepts: inline, block, inline-block

## CSS (~1.5 weeks)

- Multiple rendering styles: natural, flex, positioned, float
- Mobile layouts
- Transforms and animations (maybe)
- **FYI: No libraries or compiled CSS**

# Modern JS / ES6+

Later in the quarter, we will read and write JavaScript that looks sort of like this:

```
(async () => {  
  let choice = 'e';  
  do {  
    choice = await askQuestion('Enter choice');  
    await processChoice(choice);  
  } while (choice !== 'e');  
})();
```



# Modern JS / ES6+

## JavaScript (~5 weeks)

- JavaScript classes
- Relevant functional programming
  - Lambdas
  - Generator functions and async/await
  - "Fat arrow" vs function
  - Closures
- Creating and using Promises
- Understanding the Event Loop
- Modules and encapsulation

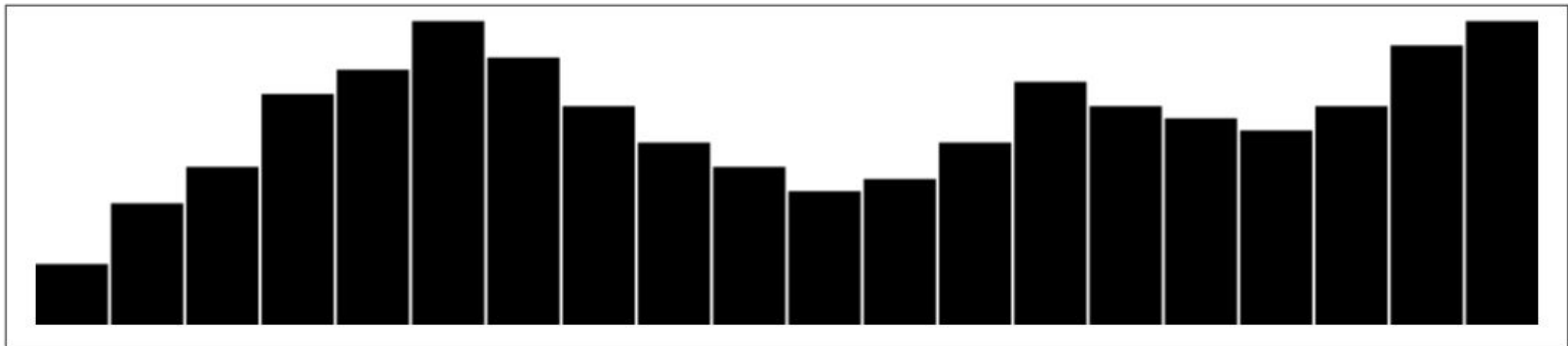
**NO frontend framework; minimal libraries**

No Angular/React/JQuery/etc

# D3

## D3 (~2 weeks)

- Fundamentals and Scalable Vector Graphics (SVG)
- Drawing with data
- Scales and Axes
- Updates, Transitions and Motion



# Backend

The coverage of server-side programming will be light.

## Backend stack:

NodeJS + Express + MongoDB via Mongoose (~4 weeks)

- What is a server
- What is npm
- How to serve static web pages
- How to server JSON via REST APIs
- Writing to and loading from a database
- Authentication via OAuth2 (i.e. login via Gmail account)

Course info

# Disclaimer

This is the first ever offering of this course, meaning:

- **Everything is subject to change.** Including everything I've just told you and everything I'm about to tell you.
- **There will be all the mistakes of a new course!**
  - Bugs in homework
  - Awkward lectures
  - Things that are too hard / too easy

Please be patient with us! We are also soliciting your constructive feedback.

# Course Structure

## "Homework 0" + ~6 homeworks

- We'll create a web app throughout the course
- Each homework will increment this web app
- Each homework will have a multiple choice "mini-homework" attached to it
- **Individual** assignments; no pairs or groups

## 0 exams

- No final, no midterm, no exams

# Lateness policy

- Every homework may be submitted up to 48 hours after the deadline, without penalty.
- Homework submitted on time will receive a small bonus to their homework score.
- Submissions are **not accepted** beyond the 48-hour grace period. The grace period is strictly enforced.

# Browser and Text editor/IDE

- **Text editor:** You can use whatever you want. We recommend [VSCode](#).
- **Browser:** Your code must work on [Chrome](#), as that is what I'll use when grading your homework. It will not be tested in any other browser.
- **Homework turn-in:** We are using GitHub Classroom for assignment turnin.

Complete [Homework 0](#) to get all set up with your homework workflow in this course!



# Lectures

Tue-Thu, 14h00-15h40 (Zoom)

- Lectures will be recorded
- Nothing will be graded in lecture
- But please come!
  - If you attend and do not feel the lectures are helpful, please send us a feedback!

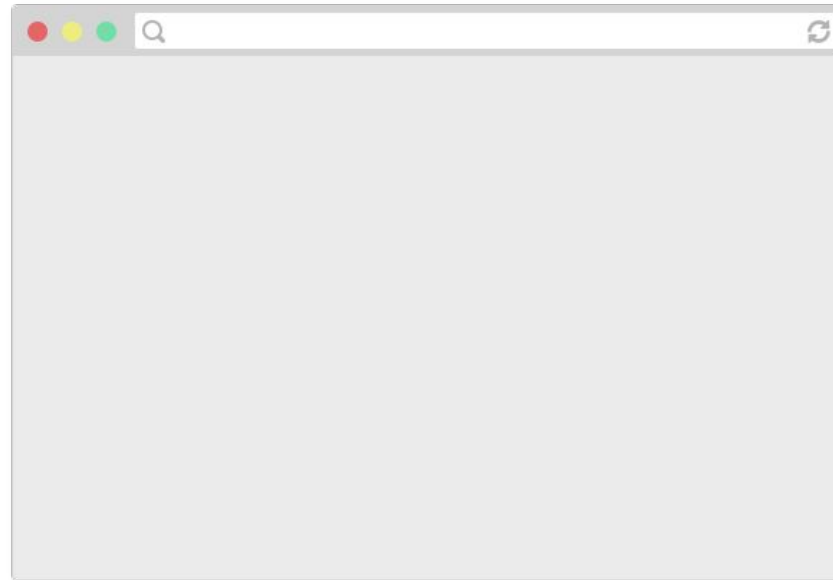
Questions?

# Today's schedule

- ~~— Syllabus~~
- ~~— Course Info~~
- Browsers
- A little bit about **HTML** and **CSS**

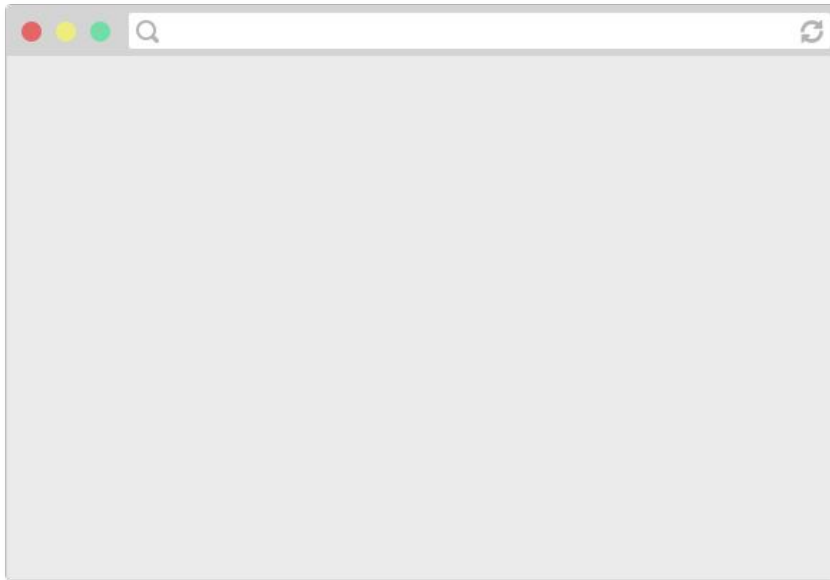
# Browsers

# How do web pages work?



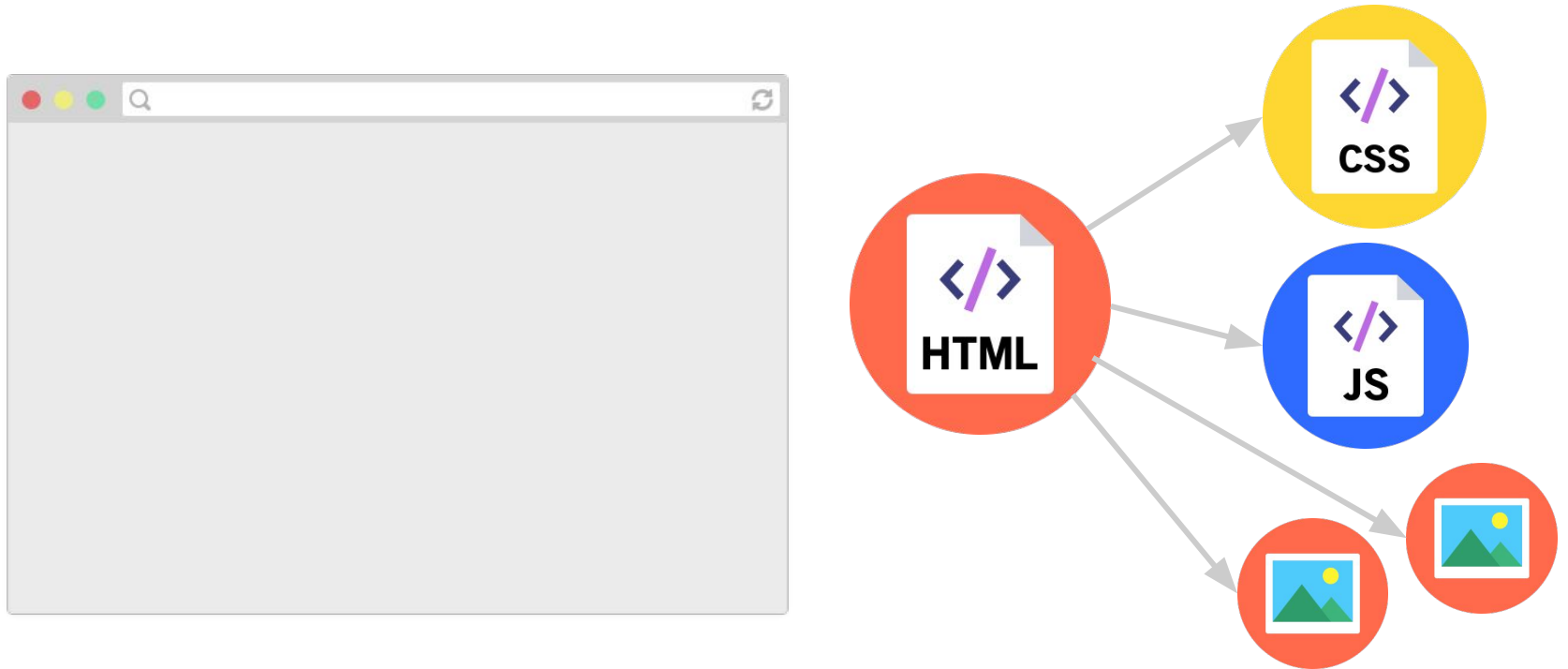
Browsers are applications that can display web pages.  
E.g. Chrome, Firefox, Safari, Internet Explorer, Edge, etc.

# How do web pages work?



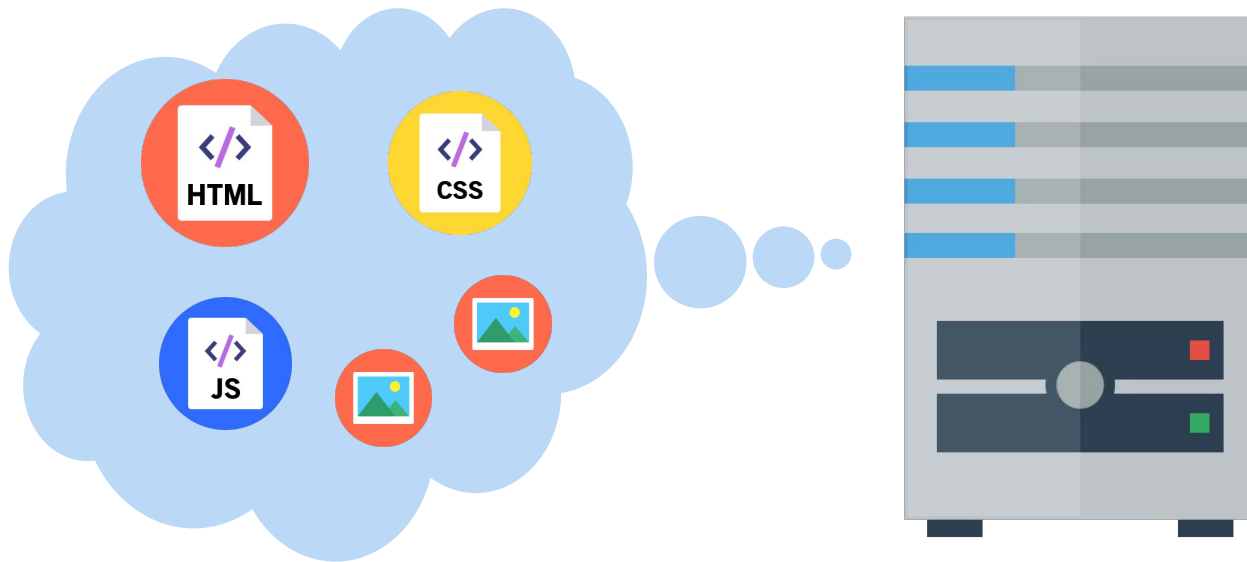
Web pages are written in a markup language called **HTML**, so browsers display a web page by reading and interpreting its HTML.

# How do web pages work?



The HTML file might link to other resources, like images, videos, as well as **JavaScript** and **CSS** (stylesheet) files, which the browser then also loads.

# How do web pages work?



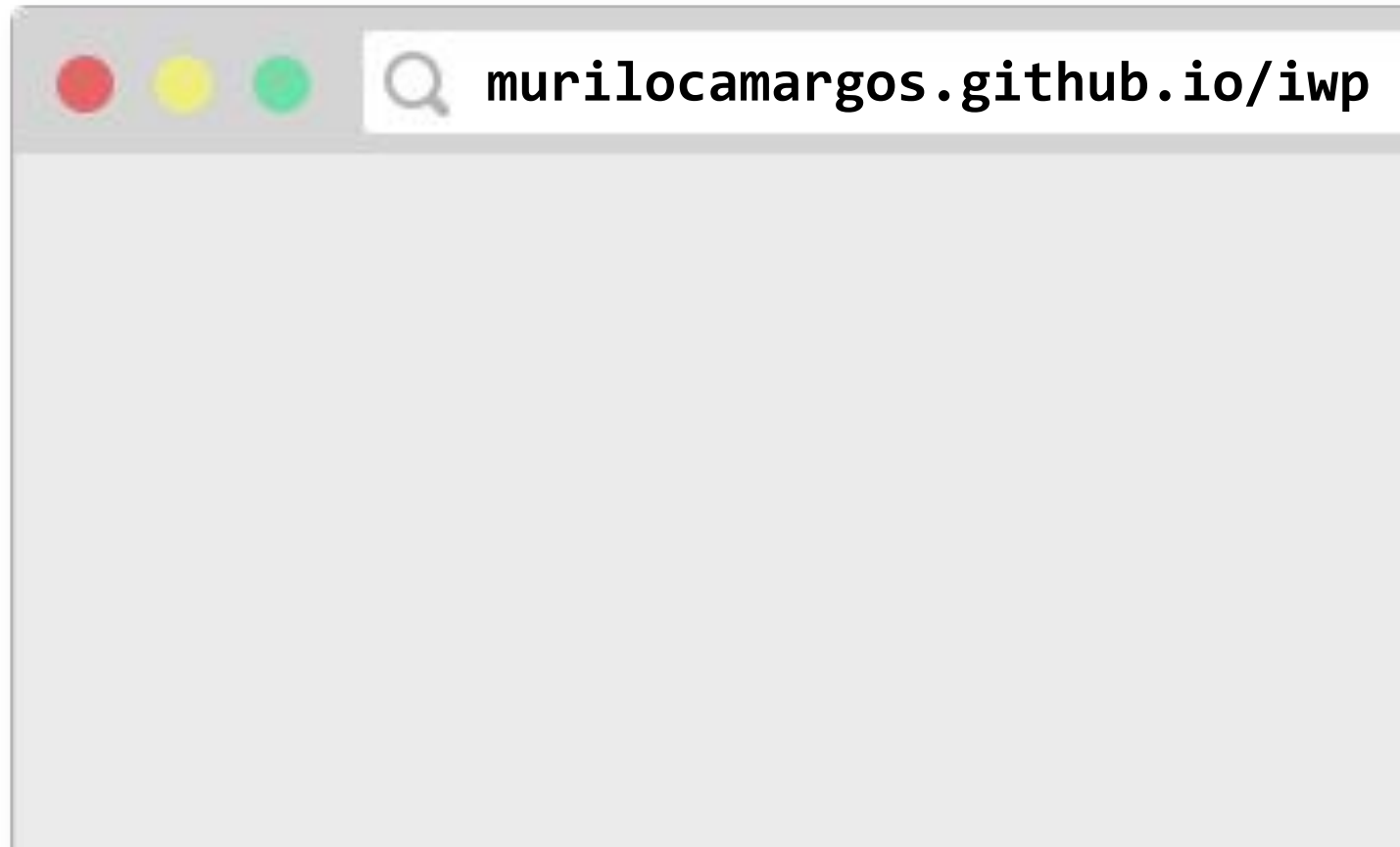
A **web server** is a program running on a computer that delivers web pages in response to requests.

It either stores or generates the web page returned.



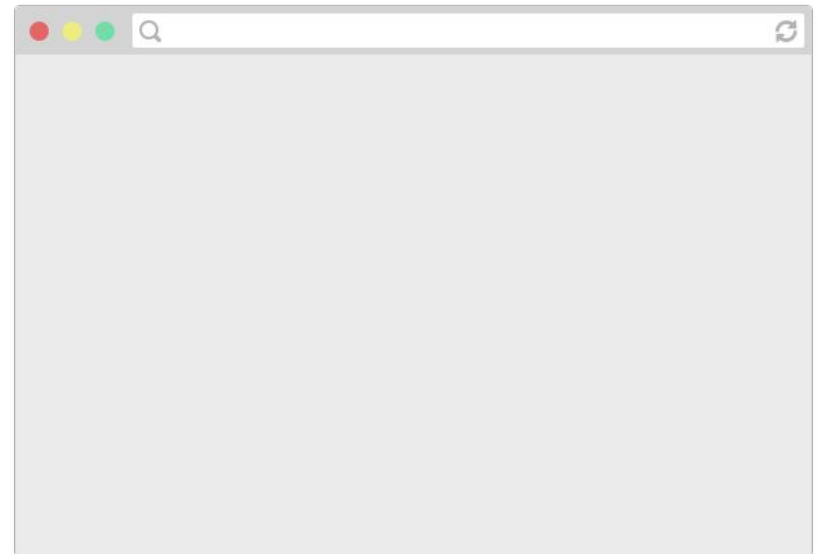
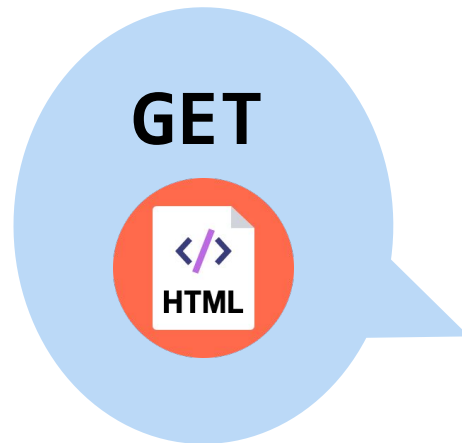
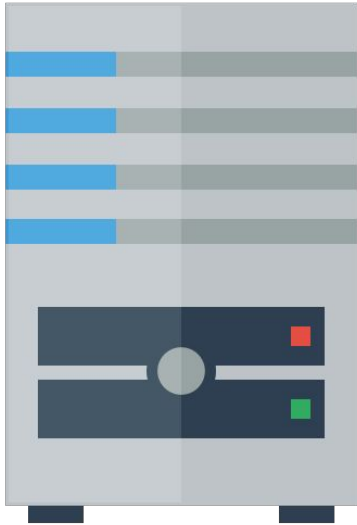
# How do web pages work?

1. You type in a URL, which is the address of the HTML file on the internet.

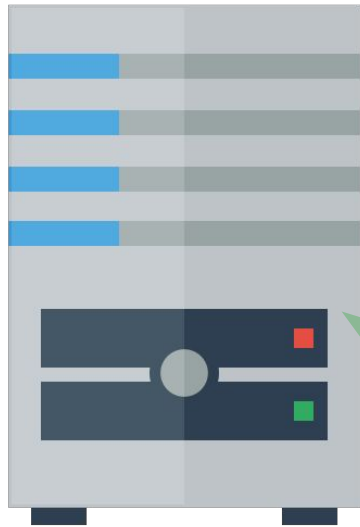


# How do web pages work?

2. The browser asks the web server that hosts the document to send that document.



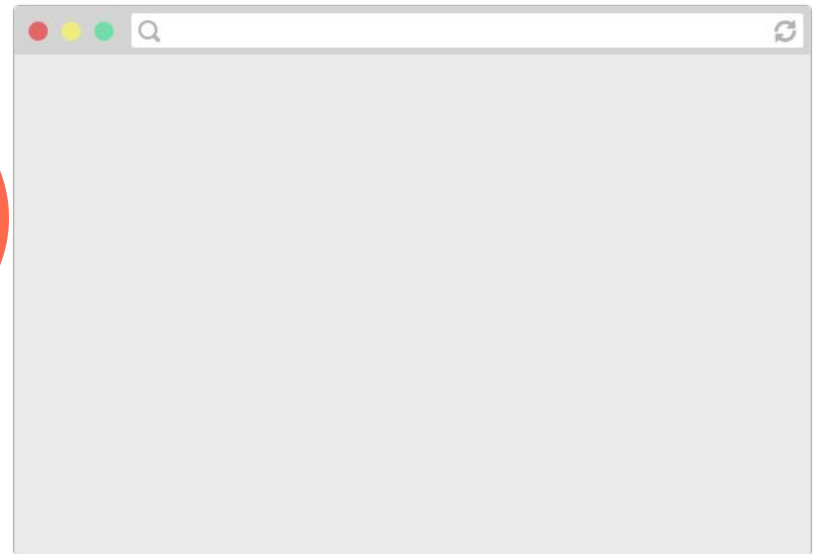
# How do web pages work?



OK



3. The web server responds to the browser with HTML file that was requested.

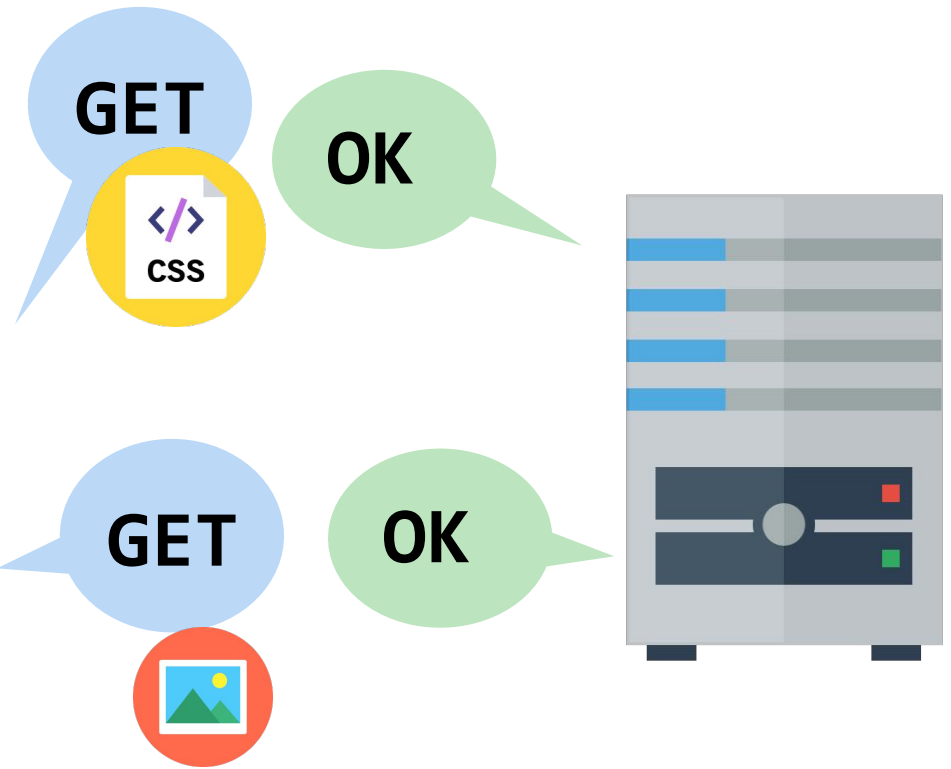
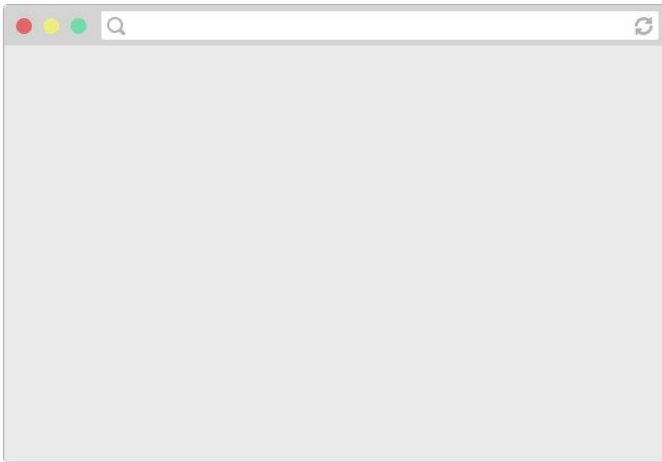


# How do web pages work?

4. The browser reads the HTML, sees the embedded resources and asks the server for those as well.



...



# How do web pages work?

5. The web page is loaded when all the resources are fetched and displayed.



# P.S.

(That was obviously very hand-wavy. We'll get more detailed when we talk about servers later in the quarter.)



# HTML and CSS

# What is HTML?

## HTML (Hypertext Markup Language)

- Describes the **content** and **structure** of a web page; not a programming language.
- Made up of building blocks called **elements**.

<p>

HTML is <em>awesome!!!</em>



</p>



# Basic HTML page structure

(i.e. copy/paste boilerplate)

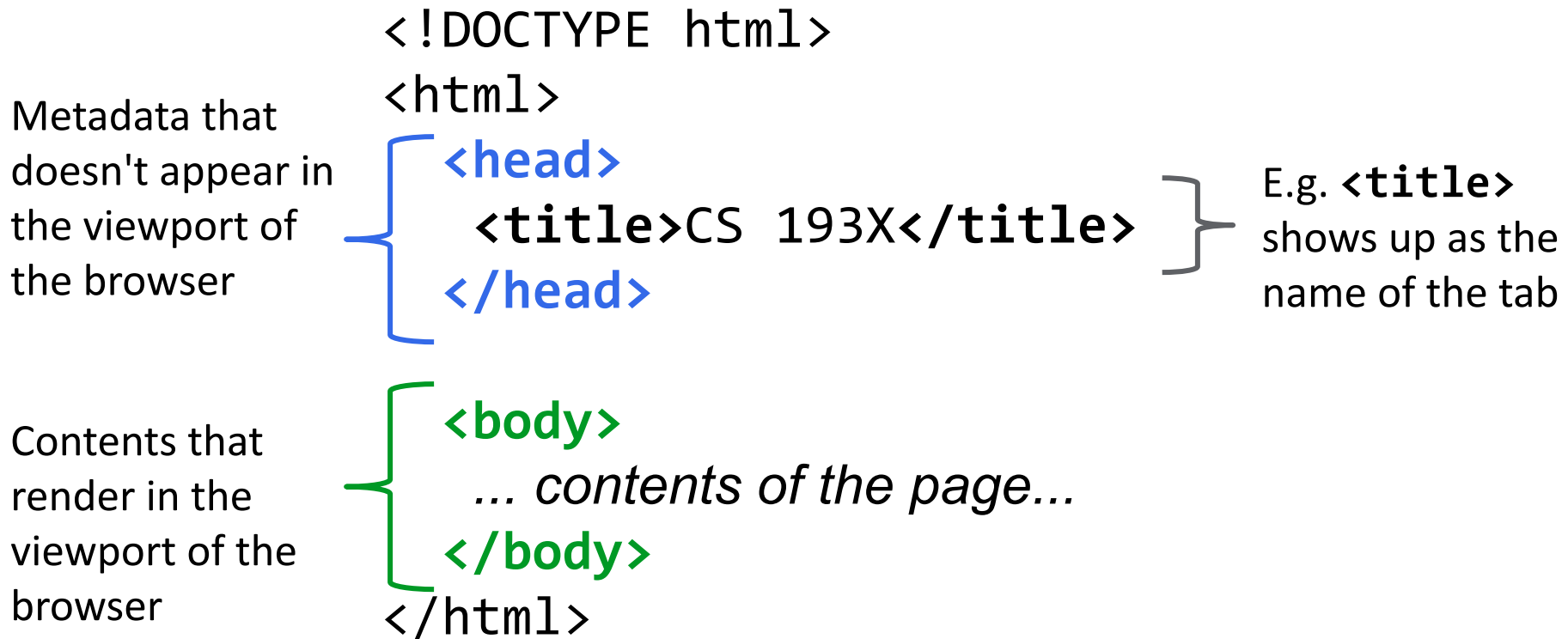
```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <title>CS 193X</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    ... contents of the page...
  </body>
</html>
```

Saved in a *filename.html* file.

# Basic HTML page structure

(i.e. copy/paste boilerplate)



# HTML elements

`<p>`

HTML is `<em>awesome!!!</em>`

``

`</p>`

- An element usually has start and ending tags (`<p>` and `</p>`)
  - **content:** stuff in between start and end tags
- An element can be self-closing (`img`)
- An element can have attributes (`src="puppy.jpg"`)
- Elements can contain other elements (`p` contains `em` and `img`)

# Some HTML elements

(to place within `<body>`)

Top-level heading <b>h1, h2, ... h6</b>	<code>&lt;h1&gt;Moby Dick&lt;/h1&gt;</code>
Paragraph	<code>&lt;p&gt;Call me Ishmael.&lt;/p&gt;</code>
Line break	<code>since feeling is first&lt;br/&gt;who pays any attention</code>
Image	<code>&lt;img src="cover.png" /&gt;</code>
Link	<code>&lt;a href="google.com"&gt;click here!&lt;/a&gt;</code>
Strong (bold)	<code>&lt;strong&gt;Be BOLD&lt;/strong&gt;</code>
Emphasis (italic)	He's my <code>&lt;em&gt;brother&lt;/em&gt;</code> and all

# Exercise: Course web page

Let's write some HTML to make the following page:



# Exercise: Course web page

## HTML boilerplate

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <title>Programação Web
Interativa</title>
  </head>

  <body>
    ...
  </body>
</html>
```

## Plaintext contents of the page

```
Programação Web Interativa

Avisos:
01/03: Começaram nossas
aulas!
01/03: A tarefa 0 está
disponível.

Ver Ementa
```

# Solution

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <title>Programação Web Interativa</title>
  </head>
  <body>
    <h1>Programação Web Interativa</h1>
    <strong>Datas importantes:</strong><br/>
    01/03: Começaram nossas aulas!<br/>
    01/03: A tarefa 0 está disponível.<br/>
    <br/>
    <a href="https://murilocamargos.github.io/iwp/syllabus">
      Ver Ementa
    </a>
  </body>
</html>
```

# That was weird

- We saw that HTML whitespace collapses into one space...

```
<h1>Programação Web Interativa</h1>  
<strong>Avisos</strong><br />  
01/03: Começaram nossas aulas!<br />
```

- Except weirdly the `<h1>` heading was on a line of its own, and `<strong>` was not.



CSS

# CSS

## CSS: Cascading Style Sheets

- Describes the **appearance** and **layout** of a web page
- Composed of CSS **rules**, which define sets of styles

```
selector {  
    property: value;  
}
```

# CSS

A CSS file is composed of **style rules**:

```
selector {  
    property: value;  
}
```

*selector*: Specifies the HTML element(s) to style.

*property*: The name of the CSS style.

*value*: The value for the CSS style.

Saved in a *filename.css* file.

# CSS

```
// NOT REAL CSS
```

```
fork {  
  color: gold;  
}
```

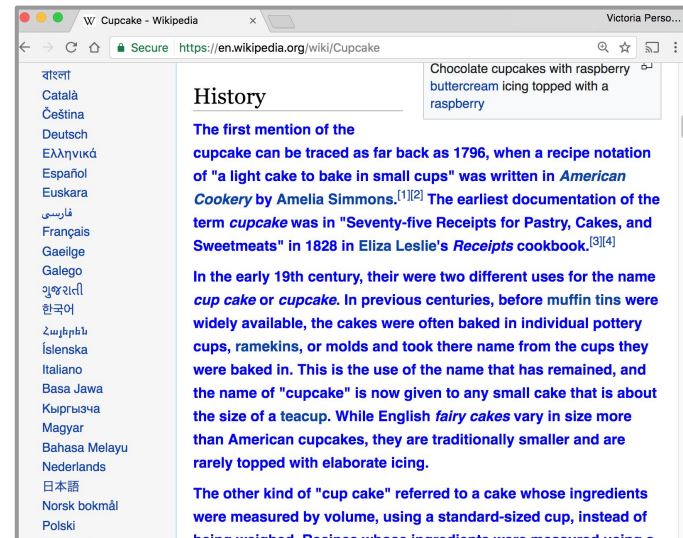
"All forks on the table  
should be gold"



# CSS

```
p {  
  color: blue;  
  font-weight: bold;  
}
```

"All <p> elements on the page should be blue and bold"



# Linking CSS in HTML

(i.e. copy/paste boilerplate)

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <title>IWP</title>
    <link rel="stylesheet" href="filename.css" />
  </head>

  <body>
    ... contents of the page...
  </body>
</html>
```

# Some CSS properties

There are over [500 CSS properties](#)! Here are a few:

Font face ( <a href="#">mdn</a> )	<b>font-family:</b> Helvetica;
Font color ( <a href="#">mdn</a> )	<b>color:</b> gray;
Background color ( <a href="#">mdn</a> )	<b>background-color:</b> red;
Border ( <a href="#">mdn</a> )	<b>border:</b> 3px solid green;
Text alignment ( <a href="#">mdn</a> )	<b>text-align:</b> center;

Aside: [Mozilla Developer Network](#) (MDN) is the best reference for HTML elements and CSS properties

- The actual W3 spec is very hard to read (meant for browser developers, not web developers)

# Main ways to define CSS colors:

140 predefined names ([list](#))

```
color: black;
```

[rgb\(\)](#) and [rgba\(\)](#)

```
color: rgb(34, 12, 64);
```

```
color: rgba(0, 0, 0, 0.5);
```

[Hex values](#)

```
color: #00ff00;
```

```
color: #0f0;
```

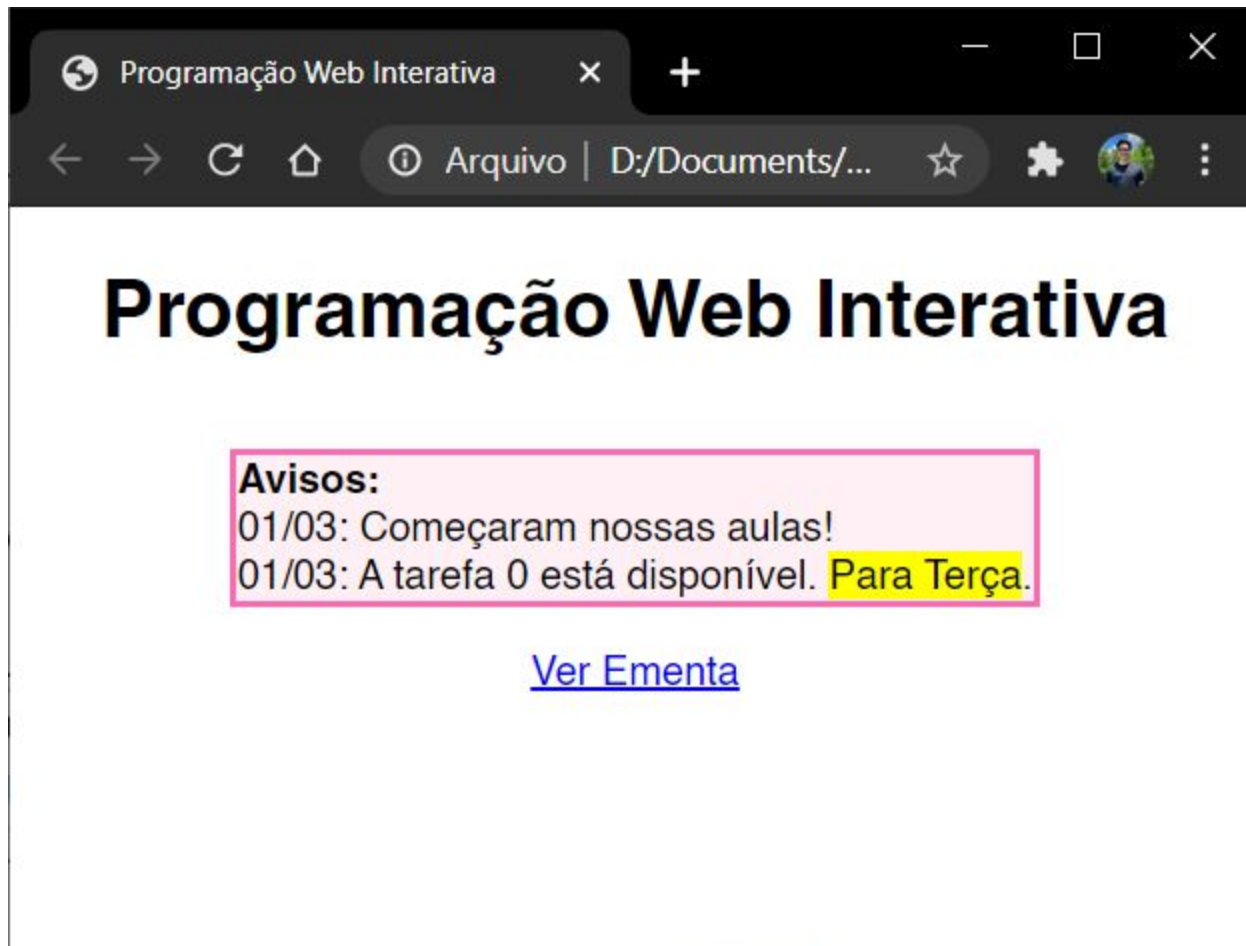
```
color: #00ff0080;
```

- The "a" stands for **alpha channel** and is a **transparency** value
- Generally prefer more descriptive over less:
  1. Predefined name
  2. rgb / rgba
  3. Hex



# Exercise: Course web page

Let's write some CSS to style our page:



# Exercise: Course web page

Let's write some CSS to style our page:

**Font face:** Helvetica

**Border:** hotpink 3px

**Background color:**

lavenderblush

**Highlight:** yellow

- Box is **centered**

- Header and link are  
**centered**

- Box contents are  
**left-aligned**



[CodePen](#)

# CSS exercise debrief

## Some **key techniques**:

- Add invisible containers in HTML to select groups of elements in CSS.
- Apply styles to parent / ancestor element to style parent and all its children. (Will talk more about this later.)

## But we encountered **more weirdness**...

- Couldn't set `text-align: center;` to the `<a>` or `<strong>` tags directly, but could center `<p>` and `<h1>`
- Had to set a `width` on the box to make it hug the text ... any other way to do this?
- How to center the box?! How do you highlight?!

Q: Why is HTML/CSS  
so bizarre??

A: There is one crucial set of rules we haven't learned yet...

**block** vs **inline** display

Next time!

Homework 0 is  
**out now**, due Tuesday  
March 9